THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND,

Convecned at *Edinburgh*, the 11th Day of *May* 1749.

Collected and extracted out of the Records by the Clerk thereof.

EDINBURGH:

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SCOTLAND,

Begun at *Edinburgh*, upon *Thursday* the 11th Day of *May* 1749, and concluded the 23d Day of the said Month and Year.

I.

The King's Commission to ALEXANDER *Earl of* Leven *produced, and ordered to be recorded.*

Edinburgh, *the 11th Day of* May 1749, *Sess.* 1.

THE General Assembly of this National Church being conveened and constituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, His MAJESTY'S Commission, sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him His Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly, of the same Tenor with

with the Commiſſion granted to his Lordſhip laſt Year, and *anno* 1747; which Commiſſion was publickly read with all due Honour and Reſpect, and appointed to be recorded in the Books of Aſſembly.

II.

The King's moſt gracious Letter to the General Aſſembly, preſented to them by His Majeſty's Commiſſioner.

Edinburgh, May 11*th* 1749, *Seſſ.* 1.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT Reverend and Well-beloved, We greet you well. The Zeal you have ſo conſtantly ſhewn for the Proteſtant Succeſſion, and for the Support and Advancement of true Religion, has induced Us, moſt readily, to countenance your preſent Meeting, with Our Approbation and Royal Authority, as We cannot doubt, but that the ſame Principles will continue to be purſued by you, for promoting, in the moſt effectual Manner, true Piety, Virtue, and Loyalty, and you may depend on Our Reſolution to maintain and ſupport the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law eſtabliſhed, in the Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges.

We have already had ſo many Occaſions to be ſatisfied with the Conduct of Our Right Truſty and entirely beloved Couſin, *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, as well as with his Fidelity and Prudence in the Diſcharge of ſo important a Truſt, that We have again made choice of him to repreſent Our Perſon in this Aſſembly, and you are ſo well acquainted with his firm Attachment to Us and Our Government, and with his Zeal for the Church of *Scotland*, that We have no room to doubt but he will be moſt acceptable to you.

The Advancement of true Religion and Piety being the chief Intent of your Aſſembling at this Time, We are convinced, that nothing will be wanting, on your Part, that may tend to the attaining thoſe good and deſireable Ends. And ſo We bid you heartily farewell.

Given

Given, at our Court at *St. James's*, the twenty-fifth Day of *April* 1749, in the twenty-second Year of Our Reign.

By his Majesty's Command,

HOLIES NEWCASTLE.

III.

The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most gracious Letter.

Edinburgh, May 13*th* 1749, *Sess.* 3.

May it please your Majesty,

THE most gracious Letter, with which your Majesty has been pleased to honour us, we received with that humble Respect and Gratitude which become Loyal Subjects, sensible of their Happiness, under the best of Sovereigns.

Nothing could afford us higher Satisfaction, than the Notice your Majesty has condescended to take of the Zeal of the Church of *Scotland*, for the Protestant Succession, and for the Support and Advancement of true Religion; these, we have always been firmly persuaded, are inseparably connected together; and, if any Thing can add to the Obligations we are under, to exert ourselves for the Support of both, it is the continued Favour your Majesty has been pleased to shew us, and your countenancing, by your Royal Authority, the General Assemblies of this Church.

As we shall always reckon it our Duty and our Honour to lay ourselves out, in our Stations, for the Advancement of true Piety, Virtue, and Loyalty, so, by the Divine Assistance, it shall be our constant Endeavour to pursue such Measures as will tend, in the most effectual Manner, to the Attainment of these valuable Ends. The Assurances your Majesty has been pleased to give us, of your Resolution to support the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law established, in the Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges, we have always received with the most humble Thankfulness: Every Renewal of these we consider as obliging us more strongly to an inviolable Attachment to your Majesty's Person and Government, and the Experience we have had, on

all Occaſions, of your Majeſty's Goodneſs, encourages us to have the firmeſt Reliance on your Royal Protection and Favour.

The Choice your Majeſty has again been pleaſed to make of the Earl of *Leven*, to repreſent your Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly, is moſt acceptable to us:---His known Zeal, Affection and Fidelity to your Majeſty's Perſon and Government, his ſteady Attachment to the Principles of the Church of *Scotland*, and Concern for her Proſperity, and the many Proofs we have had of his Abilities for the Diſcharge of this important Truſt, do juſtly entitle him to our high Regard and Eſteem.

Your Majeſty's continuing your Royal Bounty, for the promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, and the Suppreſſing of Popery in the Highlands and Iſlands of *Scotland*, we receive, with the utmoſt Gratitude, as a freſh Teſtimony of your paternal Care for the Welfare and Happineſs of your Subjects, and we look upon ourſelves, under the ſtricteſt Ties, to employ it in ſuch Manner, as may beſt anſwer the Purpoſe of ſo pious and charitable a Donation.

We are fully ſenſible that the Advancement of true Religion and Piety is the great Deſign of our Meeting; and, whilſt we have this conſtantly in our View, and behave ſuitably to our Characters, we promiſe ourſelves that we ſhall be happy in your Majeſty's Approbation and Countenance.

That the GOD and FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST may long preſerve your Majeſty to be a Bleſſing to theſe Lands, the Guardian of our Liberties civil and ſacred, and the Support of the Proteſtant Intereſt; that He may bleſs the Prince and Princeſs of *Wales*, the Duke, the Princeſſes, and all the Branches of your Royal Family; that there may never be wanting one of your moſt illuſtrious Houſe to fill the Throne of theſe Kingdoms to lateſt Ages, and that, after a long and happy Reign, over a free and dutiful People, you may exchange an earthly for a heavenly Crown, are, and ſhall be, the ſincere and hearty Prayers of,

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

Your Majeſty's moſt faithful, moſt obedient, and moſt loyal Subjects,

The Miniſters and Elders met in this National Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland,

Signed in our Name, in our Preſence, and at our Appointment, by

PATRICK CUMING *Moderator.*

IV.

ACT and Recommendation for preaching on the Principles of the Reformation and Revolution.

Edinburgh, 19*th* May 1749, *Sess.* 8.

THE General Assembly considering the strong Evidence we had, in the late wicked Rebellion, of the Obstinacy and restless Spirit of the Enemies of our happy Constitution, the continued Enmity they still shew to the best of Governments, and the Vigilance and Art with which they endeavour to lessen Peoples Zeal for the Protestant Religion, and to carry them off from their Adherence to the Interests of the Revolution, and their Fidelity and Allegiance to our most gracious Sovereign KING *GEORGE*; and at the same time being sensible, from past Experience, how apt even the Friends of our happy Establishment are, in the continued Enjoyment of Peace, to fall into Security, and thereby to give Advantage to our vigilant Enemies,---- do therefore earnestly beseech and obtest all the Ministers of this Church to continue to be diligent in instructing the People committed to their Care, in these Principles of pure Christianity that are particularly opposite to the Errors and Corruptions of Popery, and in the Grounds and Reasons of the Reformation, and the Principles on which the late glorious Revolution, and our present happy Establishment are founded; and to stir up all to a grateful Sense, and suitable Improvement of the inestimable Blessings we enjoy, by the free Exercise of the pure Religion of JESUS, and the Security of our Liberties and Properties under a legal Government. And for these Purposes, and perpetuating the Memory of the great Things GOD has done for us in these Lands; the General Assembly do warmly recommend to all the Ministers of this Church to preach expressly, and on Purpose, on the Subjects above-mentioned, or some of them, at least four LORD's Days every Year, with proper Exhortations to their People, and suitable Prayers and Praises to our most gracious GOD, in the Name of the only MEDIATOR between GOD and Man, our LORD JESUS CHRIST. And further the Assembly do earnestly recommend to all Presbyteries to take a watchful Inspection of Schools within their Bounds, and of the Character and Behaviour of Schoolmasters,

masters, and to take care that they be qualified, by taking the Oaths to the Government, and that they instruct the Youth in just Principles of Religion and Loyalty.

V.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, and for managing his Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End.

Edinburgh, May 20*th* 1749. *Sess.* 9*th*.

THE General Assembly do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint the Reverend Mr. *Patrick Cuming*, one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, their Moderator, Mr. *Thomas Tullideph* Principal of *St. Leonard*,s College at *St. Andrews*; Mr. *Niel Campbell* Principal of the College of *Glasgow*; Mr. *William Wishart* Principal of the College of *Edinburgh*; Mr. *John Lumisden* Professor of Divinity in the King's College of *Aberdeen*; Mr. *Robert Pollock* Professor of Divinity in the Marishal College of *Aberdeen*; Mr. *Andrew Schaw* Professor of Divinity in the University of *St. Andrews*; Mr. *William Leechman* Professor of Divinity in the College of *Glasgow*; Mr. *Robert Wallace* at *Edinburgh*; Mr. *William Gusthart* there, Mr. *James Witherspoon* at *Yester*, his Majesty's Chaplains; Masters *James Walker* at *Canongate*, *James Nisbet* at *Edinburgh*, *John Guthrie* at *Ratho*, *John Matthieson* at *Edinburgh*, *George Logan* there, *James Bannatyne* there, *George Fordice* at *Corstorphin*, *Robert Kinloch* at *Edinburgh*, *John Glen* there, *Thomas Pitcairn* at *West-Kirk*, *James Stevenson* at *Edinburgh*, *George Lindsay* at *North Leith*, *Robert Hamilton* at *Edinburgh*, *William Aitken* at *South-Leith*, *Alexander Webster* at *Edinburgh*, *Frederick Carmichael* there, *Gilbert Hamilton* at *Cramond*, *William Bennet* at *Duddingston*, *Robert Walker* at *South Leith*, *George Kay* at *West-kirk*, *David Moubray* at *Currie*, *John Jardine* at *Liberton*, *Hugh Blair* at *Canongate*, *Alexander Bryce* at *Kirknewton*, *William Smith* in the Castle of *Edinburgh*, *John Hyndman* at *Collingtoun*, *Matthew Cleghorn*

Cleghorn at *Rousay*, *William Mair* at *Holm*, *John Scollay* at *Cross* Parish, *Robert Dalgleish* at *Linlithgow*, *David Blenshall* at *Lamington*, *Thomas Turnbull* at *Borthwick*, *William Carlyle* at *Prestonpans*, *George Buchanan* at *Tyningham*, *Robert Monteith* at *Longformacus*, *William Home* at *Polwarth*, *James Colden* at *Whitsom*, *Andrew Chatto* at *Marbottle*, *Robert Bell* at *Crealine*, *Francis Scot* at *Westruther*, *Henry Erskine* at *Roberton*, *Walter Cook* at *Cummertrees*, *William Armstrong* at *Castletoun*, *Gabriel Gulan* at *Drysdale*, *Archibald Little* at *Morton*, *John Scot* at *Dumfries*, *George Garthshore* at *Kirkcudbright*, *Andrew Adair* at *Whithorn*, *Thomas Mutter* at *Leswalt*, *William Steel* at *Sorn*, *Robert Finlay* at *Inch*, *George Bannatyne* at *Craigie*, *James Millar* at *Hamilton*, *Robert Hamilton* there, *William Craig* at *Glasgow*, *John Allan* at *Row*, *Duncan MacFarlane* at *Drymen*, *Dougal Allan* at *Inverchallen*, *Patrick Campbell* at *Inverary*, *Archibald MacNiel* at *Morvern*, *Alexander MacLagan* at *Little Dunkeld*, *Robert Covingtree* at *Kelspindie*, *Daniel MacQueen* at *Stirling*, *Finlay Ferguson* at *Balquhidder*, *John Hill* at *St. Andrews*, *James Thomson* at *Dumfermline*, *James Bishop* at *Kinclaven*, *Henry Spence* at *Weems*, *William Crookshank* at *Ruthven*, *Hugh Maxwell* at *Strathmartine*, *John Henderson* at *St: Vigians*, *Robert Young* at *Benholm*, *James Nicolson* at *Banchory*, *George Campbell* at *Banchory-ternan*, *Theodore Gordon* at *Kinnethmont*, *James Chalmers* at *Daviot*, *George Gordon* at *Drumblade*, *James Anderson* at *Boyndie*, *Alexander Irvine* at *Elgin*, *Alexander Chalmers* at *Cairnie*, *George Grant* at *Boharm*, *Robert Dunbar* at *Dyke*, *William Blair* at *Kinguissie*, *Robert Dalrymple* at *Dollas*, *James Lesly* at *Moy*, *Hector MacPhail* at *Culicudden*, *Andrew Robertson* at *Kiltearn*, *Duncan MacPherson* at *Lagan*, *John Beton* at *Glenshiel*, *Robert Kirk* at *Dornoch*, *James Oswald* at *Dunnet*, *Robert Spears* at *Burntisland*, *George Ogilvy* at *Cortachy*, *Robert Trail* at *Kettens*, *Matthew Stewart* Professor of Mathematicks in the University of *Edinburgh*, *James Watson* at *Newbottle*, and *George Ellis* at *Carridden*, MINISTERS: His Grace *James* Duke of *Athol*, *Archibald* Duke of *Argyle*, the Most Honourable the Marquis of *Lothian*, the Right Honourable the Earl of *Marchmont*, the Right Honourable the Earl of *Leven*, the Right Honourable *Robert Dundas* of *Arniston*, Esq; Lord President of the Court of Session, the Right Honourable *William Grant* of *Prestongrange* his Majesty's Advocate, *Charles Areskine* of *Tinwald* Lord Justice Clerk, *Hugh Dalrymple* of *Drumore*, Esq; *Patrick Grant* of *Elchies*, Esq; *John Sinclair* of *Murkle*, Esq; and *Pat. Boyle* of *Shewalton*, Esq; four of the Senators of the College of Justice, Sir *Archibald Grant* of

Monymusk James Milroy, late Baillie of *Edinburgh*, *George Cuningham* Surgeon there, *Archibald Mac Auly*, Esq; Lord Provost of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Robert Dundass*, younger of *Arniston*, Mr. *Andrew Pringle* Advocate, Mr. *James Erskine* junior, Advocate, Doctor *Alexander Martine* of *Little-airies*, Physician, Mr. *David Dalrymple*, Advocate Procurator for the Church, *Robert MacIntosh*, Agent for the Church, *Albert Munro* of *Coull*, *John Paton*, Bookseller in *Edinburgh*, Capt. *John Campbel* of *Limfield*, *John Forrest*, one of the present Baillies of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *James Davidson* of *Haltree*, *John Osburn*, Esq; late Lord Provost of *Edinburgh*, Doctor *Andrew Plummer*, Physician, *Alexander Blackwood*, late Baillie of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Patrick Haldane* of *Bearcrofts*, one of his Majesty's Sollicitors, Mr. *Alexander Mac Millan* of *Dunmore*, Writer to the Signet, Mr. *Charles Campbell* of *Lochland*, Mr. *Andrew Mac Dowal* of *Kingseat*, Advocate, Mr. *Gilbert Elliot*, younger of *Minto*, *James Stewart*, Merchant and late Baillie of *Edinburgh*, *James Balfour* of *Pilrig*, *John Dickie*, Accomptant in Excise, *John Balfour*, Merchant in *Leith*, Mr. *Joseph Williamson*, Advocate, Mr. *James Græme* of *Damside*, and *Hector MacLean* of *Torloisk*, RULING ELDERS; to be a Committee of this Assembly, for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of *Scotland*, for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, suppressing of Popery and Profaneness, and for managing the Royal Bounty given for these Ends, according to, and in Terms of his Majesty's Grant to this Assembly, and the sixth Act of last Assembly, and whole Acts therein-mentioned, and in Acts formerly made and referred to, in the Commissions granted to former Committees, any five of the Persons above-named are declared to be a *Quorum*, whereof three to be Ministers: But it is hereby appointed, That, at the quarterly Meeting of the said Committee, when the Scheme or Establishment of Missionaries, for the Year ensuing, shall be approved and determined, nine Ministers and five Ruling Elders, at least, shall be a *Quorum*; and the said Committee are appointed to have their Meetings at *Edinburgh*, in the Hall of the Society in *Scotland* for propagating Christian Knowlege, the last *Thursday* of every Month, at Three of the Clock Afternoon, and also the first lawful Day after the Adjournment of the four stated Diets of the Commission of the General Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, except when it falls to be upon *Friday* or *Saturday*, and then the Meeting is to be upon *Monday* next thereafter, at the said Hour; with Power to the said Committee to adjourn themselves to such Times and Places as they shall find most needful and convenient; and they are to keep a Correspondence with the Commission of the General Assembly, and the

Society

Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and take their Advice and Aſſiſtance. And the General Aſſembly do, by theſe Preſents, nominate and appoint the ſaid Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foreſaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out the ſame as he ſhall be directed and ordered by the ſaid Committee, and according to their Rules. And the ſaid Committee are appointed to examine the Accompts of the Diſtribution of the Royal Bounty, and lay the ſame before the Lords Commiſſioners of his Majeſty's Treaſury, or the Barons of his Majeſty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their Diligence to the General Aſſembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, that no Perſon once employed, and inſert in the Scheme, ſhall be ſtruck out thereof for that Year, but by the *Quorum* of at leaſt nine Miniſters and five Ruling Elders: And in caſe any Complaint ſhall be made againſt any of them on the Scheme, it ſhall not be determined at the firſt Ordinary Meeting that the ſame is offered, but ſhall ly on the Table till another Meeting; and, in the mean Time, the Perſon complained of, and the Presbytery of the Bounds wherein he officiates, ſhall be acquainted of ſuch Complaint, and theſe concerned be required to ſend to the ſaid Committee a juſt Account of the Matter, againſt their next Meeting. And it is further appointed, That, after the yearly Scheme of Miſſionaries on the Royal Bounty is ſettled in Manner above-directed, and Notice thereof given by Letters to the Preſbyteries concerned, ſuch Presbyteries ſhall ſend up to the ſaid Committee their Anſwers to theſe Letters, at fartheſt with their Commiſſioners, to the General Aſſembly, if the ſame be not done ſooner. And that the Committee, at their Meeting in *May*, ſhall name a Sub-committee of their Number, for preparing the next Year's Scheme, who are to lay their Draught thereof before a ſubſequent Meeting.

VI.

Act appointing Presbyteries to hold Viſitations for ſettling Parochial Schools.

Edinburgh, May 20th, 1749, Seſſ. 9.

THERE was brought in to the General Aſſembly of the Church of *Scotland*, from their Committee for Bills, the Petition of the Society in *Scotland* for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, repreſenting, that the Society have, ſince the Year 1709, been conſtantly

conſtantly employed in carrying on the Ends of their Erection, by ſettling Schools, and employing School-maſters in the large Pariſhes of the Highlands of the Northern and Weſtern Parts of *Scotland*, and their Endeavours have, by the Bleſſing of God, been attended with remarkable Succeſs: That the Society were ſorry to repreſent to the Aſſembly, that, notwithſtanding the good Laws made for eſtabliſhing Parochial Schools, and providing Salaries, with School-houſe and other Accommodations for the Maſter at every Pariſh Church, yet ſeveral Presbyteries have, for ſome time paſt, and particularly of late, neglected to hold Viſitations, and take the proper Steps for bringing theſe Laws into Execution, but ſeem totally to depend upon the Charity-ſchools eſtabliſhed by the ſaid Society: This being not only a manifeſt Diſregard of theſe beneficial Rules eſtabliſhed by the Legiſlature, but alſo a direct Miſ-improvement of the good Intentions and Effects of the ſaid Society, a Matter of great Importance to the Country in general; it was judged proper to ſend Letters to the ſeveral Presbyteries in whoſe Bounds any of the Society's Charity-ſchools are ſettled, requeſting them to uſe their Endeavours forthwith to ſettle a publick School in every Pariſh; and, at the ſame time, informing them, that, otherways, the Society would not fail to withdraw theirs, which were never meant to ſupercede any Mean of Inſtruction whatever, far leſs a Mean eſtabliſhed by Law; and, in order to enforce the Certification, and to prevent its taking Effect, the Society could not but hope, that this Aſſembly, upon due Conſideration, would interpone their Authority thereto, and enjoin all the Presbyteries in this Church to do their Duty in this Reſpect; and therefore, humbly craving to the Effect aftermentioned. The General Aſſembly having heard and conſidered the ſaid Petition, and Opinion of their Committee for Bills thereupon, did, and hereby do recommend to, and enjoin the ſeveral Presbyteries of this Church to hold Viſitations of Pariſhes where publick Schools are wanting, and to take all proper and legal Steps for ſettling ſuch Schools therein, with competent Salaries, and building of School-houſes, as the Law directs.

VII.

Commiſſion to ſome Miniſters and Ruling Elders for diſcuſſing Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 22d, 1749, Seſſ. ult.

THE General Aſſembly, conſidering that there are divers Affairs which they cannot overtake, do hereby nominate, commiſſionate and appoint the Rev. Mr. *Patrick Cuming*, one of the Miniſters of

of *Edinburgh*, their Moderator, and, from the Presbytery of *Kirkwall*, Mr. *Hugh Mouat* at *Evie*, Mr. *William Mair* at *Holm*, MINISTERS; *Alexander Gibſon*, RULING Elder: From the Presbytery of *Cairſton*, Mr. *James Tyrie at Stromneſs*, Mr. *Edward Irvine* at *Walls*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Andrew Roſs* Factor for the Earl of *Morton*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *North-Iſles*, Mr. *John Scollay* at *Croſs-pariſh*, Mr. *Matthew Cleghorn* at *Rouſay*, MINISTERS; *Jerom Denniſon* of *Noutland*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Zetland*, Mr. *Matthew Moncrief* at *Breſſay*, Mr. *Thomas Miller* at *Lerwick*, MINISTERS; *John Craigie*, Chamberlain to the Earl of *Morton*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Thomas Pitcairn* at *Weſtkirk*, Mr. *George Wiſhart* at *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Alexander Webſter* there, Mr. *Alexander Bryce* at *Kirknewton*, Mr. *James Stevenſon* at *Edinburgh*, Mr. *William Wiſheart* Principal of the College of *Edinburgh*, MINISTERS; the Right Hon. *Robert Dundaſs* of *Arniſton*, Lord Preſident of the Seſſion, *John Osborn*, late Lord Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, *Hugh Hathorn*, one of the preſent Baillies of *Edinburgh*, RULING ELDERS: From the City of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *John Forreſt* Merchant, and one of the preſent Baillies of *Edinburgh*, *William Wight* Baxter, and ſecond Trades-Counſellor there; Univerſity of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *William Dawſon* Profeſſor of *Hebrew* therein; Church of *Campvere*, Mr. *James Yair* MINISTER; *Archibald Mac Aulay*, Eſq; Lord Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Linlithgow*, Mr. *Robert Dalgleiſh* at *Linlithgow*, Mr. *George Ellis* at *Carridden*, Mr. *Henry Lundie* at *Abercorn*, Mr. *Archibald Mac Aulay* at *Queensferry*, MINISTERS; *George Dundaſs* of *Dundaſs*, Eſq; Mr. *Robert Ramſay* of *Blackcraig*, Advocate, RULING ELDERS: Burgh of *Linlithgow*, Mr. *James Dundaſs* of *Philpſtone*, Advocate: Burgh of *Queensferry*, *John Dundaſs* of *Newhalls*, Eſq;: From the Presbytery of *Biggar*, Mr. *David Blenſhall* at *Lamington*, Mr. *John Buchanan* at *Covingtoun*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Robert Welſh* at *Moſsfennan*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Peebles*, Mr. *John Hay* at *Peebles*, Mr. *Alexander Robertſon* at *Edleſtoun*, MINISTERS; *James Leiſhman* of *Plewlands*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dalkeith*, Mr. *Thomas Turnbull* at *Borthwick*, Mr. *David Gilchriſt* at *Newton*, Mr. *James Watſon* at *Newbottle*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Robert Dundaſs*, younger of *Arniſton*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Haddington*, Mr. *Andrew Dickſon* at *Aberlady*, Mr. *William Carlyle* at *Preſtonpans*, Mr. *Edward*

Steedman at *Haddington*, MINISTERS; Mr. *William Law* of *Elvingſton*, Advocate, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Haddington*, *Robert Thomſon* Dean of Guild thereof: Burgh of *North-Berwick*, *John Buchan* of *Lethem*: From the Presbytery of *Dunbar*, Mr. *George Buchanan* at *Tyningham*, Mr. *John Cluny* at *Whitekirk*, MINISTERS; *Alexander Hamilton* of *Pencaitland*, Eſq; RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Dunbar*, Mr. *Alexander Home* of *Eccles*, one of his Majeſty's Solicitors: From the Presbytery of *Dunſe*, Mr. *William Home* at *Polwarth*, Mr. *Robert Monteith* at *Longformacus*, MINISTERS; the Right Hon. the Earl of *Marchmont*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Chirnſide*, Mr. *Henry Veitch* at *Swinton*, Mr. *James Colden* at *Whitſom*, Mr. *William Wilſon* at *Coldſtream*, MINISTERS; Mr. *John Swinton* younger of that Ilk, Advocate, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Kelſo*, Mr. *Andrew Chatto* at *Marbottle*, Mr. *Robert Turnbul* at *Sprouſtoune*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Charles Binning* of *Pilmuir*, Advocate, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Jedburgh*, Mr. *Robert Bell* at *Crealine*, Mr. *John Oliver* at *Southden*, Mr. *George Dickſon* at *Bedrule*, MINISTERS; the moſt Hon. the Marquis of *Lothian* RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Erſilton*, Mr *John Bell* at *Gordon*, Mr. *Francis Scot* at *Weſtruther*, MINISTERS; *George Peter* of *Chappel*, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Lauder*, Mr. *Robert Kennedy* of *Greenknow*, Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Selkirk*, Mr. *Henry Erskine* at *Roberton*, Mr. *Walter Stewart* at *Aſhkirk*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Andrew Pringle*, Advocate, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Selkirk*, *John Douglaſs* Baillie thereof: From the Presbytery of *Annan*, Mr. *Walter Cook* at *Cummertrees*, Mr. *James Armſtrong at Ruthwell*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Robert Dalrymple* of *Prieſtſide*, Writer to the Signet, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Langholm*, Mr. *David Balmain* at *Weſterkirk*, Mr. *Robert Malcolm* at *Ewes*, MINISTERS: From the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, Mr. *Gabriel Gulan* at *Dryſdale*, Mr. *William Scot* at *Kirkpatrickjuxta*, Mr. *George Barclay* at *Wamphry*, MINISTERS; *Peter Halliday* in *Barntympan*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Penpont*, Mr. *Archibald Little* at *Morton*, Mr. *William Cuningham* at *Durisdeer*, MINISTERS; *William Collow* of *Achenchean*, Eſq; RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dumfries*, Mr. *John Scot* at *Dumfries*, Mr. *Luke Gibſon* at *Colvend*, Mr. *George Duncan* at *Lochrutton*, MINISTERS; the Right Hon. the Lord Juſtice Clerk, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Dumfries*, *James Smith* Writer: From the Presbytery of *Kirkcudbright*, Mr. *George Garthſhore*

shore at *Kirkcudbright*, Mr. *William Jameison* at *Rerick*, Mr. *Alexander Brown* at *Tongland*, MINISTERS; *James Naesmith* of *Earlshaugh*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Wigtoun*, Mr. *Andrew Adair* at *Whithorn*, Mr. *John Hart* at *Kirkinner*, MINISTERS; *Alexander Cowan* in *Sketh*, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Whithorn*, Doctor *Alexander Martin* of *Littleaires*, Physician: From the Presbytery of *Stranrawer*, Mr. *Thomas Mutter* at *Lesswalt*, Mr. *Robert Finlay* at *Inch*, MINISTERS; Doctor *James Dalrymple* of *Dunraggat*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Air*, Mr. *George Reid* at *St. Quivox*, Mr. *William Steel* at *Sorn*, Mr. *George Bannatyne* at *Craigie*, Mr. *William Allan* at *Bar*, Mr. *Patrick Woodrow* at *Torbolton*, MINISTERS; Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, Mr. *William Wallace* of *Cairnhill*, Advocate, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Irvine*, Mr. *James Semple* at *Dreghorn*, Mr. *Robert Baird* at *Dunlop*, Mr. *Robert Dow* at *Ardrossan*, MINISTERS; Baillie *George Mitchell* Merchant in *Kilmarnock*, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Irvine*, the Right Hon. the Lord *Shewalton*: From the Presbytery of *Paisly*, Mr. *John Warner* at *Kilbarchan*, Mr. *James Lundie* at *Erskine*, Mr. *John Monteith* at *Kilallan*, MINISTERS; Sir *John Maxwel* of *Pollock*, Bart. RULING ELDER: From the Burgh of *Renfrew*, Provost *William Sommerville*, jun. From the Presbytery of *Hamilton*, Mr. *Robert Hamilton* at *Hamilton*, Mr. *James Miller* there, Mr. *Robert Park* at *Westmonkland*, MINISTERS; *Daniel Campbell* of *Shawfield*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Lanerk*, Mr. *William Forrester* at *Carstairs*, Mr. *William Hamilton* at *Douglas*, Mr. *Andrew Orr* at *Carluke*, MINISTERS; *James White* of *Overstock-bridge*, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Lanerk*, *Robert Bell* Merchant and one of the Baillies thereof: From the Presbytery of *Glasgow*, Mr. *Neil Campbell* Principal of the College of *Glasgow*, Mr. *William Craig* at *Glasgow*, Mr. *William Thom* at *Govan*, MINISTERS; *John Ritchie* of *Craigtoun* RULING ELDER: City of *Glasgow*, *John Murdoch* Merchant, late Provost thereof: University of *Glasgow*, Mr. *William Leechman* Professor of Divinity therein: From the Presbytery of *Dumbarton*, Mr. *John Allan* at *Row*, Mr. *Duncan MacFarlane* at *Drymen*, Mr. *James Gray* at *Strathblain*, MINISTERS; *James Hamilton* of *Barns*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dunoon*, Mr. *Dougal Allan* at *Inverchallen*, Mr. *Alexander Lamont* at *Kilfinan*, MINISTERS; *Archibald Campbell* of *Dunoon*, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Rothesay*, *William Stewart* of *Hartwood*:

Hartwood: From the Presbytery of *Kintyre*, Mr. *John MacVicar* at *Ilay*, Mr. *Charles Bannatine* at *Arran*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Alexander Mac Millan* of *Dunmore*, Writer to the Signet, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Inverary*, Mr. *Patrick Campbell* at *Inverary*, Mr. *Archibald Lambie* at *Kilmartine*, MINISTERS; *Colin Campbell* of *Kilbride*, Esq; RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Inverary*, Mr. *Archibald Campbell* Writer to the Signet: From the Presbytery of *Lorn*, Mr. *Alexander Mac Farlane* at *Kilninver*, Mr. *James Stewart* at *Kilbranden*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Charles Campbell* of *Lochland*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Mull*, Mr. *Archibald MacNeil* at *Morvern*, Mr. *Archibald MacLean* of *Kilfinichan*, MINISTERS; *Hector MacLean* of *Torloisk*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dunkeld*, Mr. *Alexander MacLagan* at *Little Dunkeld*, Mr. *James Scot* at *Auchtergaven*, Mr. *James Bishop* at *Kinclaven*, Mr. *John Douglass* at *Kenmore*, MINISTERS; *Patrick Small* of *Lianoch*, *Robert MacIntosh* Agent for the Church, RULING ELDERS: From the Presbytery of *Perth*, Mr. *Robert Covingtree* at *Kilspindie*, Mr. *Charles Phut* at *Kinfauns*, Mr. *Alexander Mair* of *Forteviot*, Mr. *James Lindsay* at *Dumbarnie*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Robert Craigie* of *Glendoick*, Advocate, *John Belsches* of *Innermay*, RULING ELDERS: From the Presbytery of *Stirling*, Mr. *William Campbell* at *Alva*, Mr. *Daniel MacQueen* at *Stirling*, MINISTERS; *Thomas Dundass* of *Lethem*, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Stirling*, *Thomas Gillespie* Baillie thereof: From the Presbytery of *Auchterarder*, Mr. *Andrew Ramsay* at *Maderty*, Mr. *John Storer* at *Fossoway*, Mr. *Donald Monro* at *Monzie*, MINISTERS; Mr. *James Graeme* of *Damside*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dumblane*, Mr. *Finlay Ferguson* at *Balquhidder*, Mr. *James Richardson* at *Aberfoil* MINISTERS; Sir *James Campbell of Aberuchill*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, Mr. *James Thomson* at *Dumfermline*, Mr. *James Bathgate* at *Dalgettie*, Mr. *James Stoddart* at *Culross*, MINISTERS; Sir *George Preston* of *Valleyfield*, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Dumfermline*, *David Turnbull* Merchant and one of the present Baillies thereof: Burgh of *Culross*, *Robert Geddes* Merchant and one of the present Baillies thereof: From the Presbytery of *Kirkcaldy*, Mr. *Robert Spiers* at *Burntisland*, Mr. *George Gibb* at *Abbotshall*, Mr. *David Rentoul* at *Kirkcaldy*, MINISTERS; *John Dundass* of *Bogie*, RULING ELDER: Burgh of *Kirkcaldy*, *James Barclay*, Esq; present Provost thereof: Burgh of *Dysart*, Doctor *Robert Hay* of *Struie*, Burgh of *Burntisland*, Mr.

Thomas

Thomas Braid Preacher of the Goſpel at *Bannochy*: From the Presbytery of *Coupar*, Mr. *Patrick Maxton* at *Auchtermuchty*, Mr. *Archibald Myles* at *Moonſie*, Mr. *Thomas Condie* at *Dairſy*, Mr. *Francis Adam* at *Creich*, MINISTERS; the Right Hon. the Earl of *Leven*, Mr. *Ballingal* of *Edenſhead*, RULING ELDERS: Burgh of *Coupar*, Mr. *James Leſly* Provoſt thereof: From the Preſbytery of *St. Andrews*, Mr. *Andrew Burn* at *Anſtruther Weſter* Mr. *Alexander Walker* at *Kemback*, Mr. *John Hill* at *St. Andrews*, Mr. *William Bate* at *Forgan*, MINISTERS; Mr. *James Duddingſtone* of St. *Fort*, Baillie *Robert Waddel* Ship-builder in *Cellardike*, RULING ELDERS: From the Presbytery of *Meigle*, Mr. *Laurence Brown* at *Lentrathen*, Mr. *William Crookſhank* at *Ruthven*, Mr. *Robert Trail* at *Kettens*, MINISTERS; *John Barry* in *Coupar* of *Angus*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Forfar*, Mr. *James Henderſon* at *Dunnichin*, Mr. *George Ogilvie* at *Cortachy*, MINISTERS; *James Carnegie* of *Finhaven*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dundee*, Mr. *Hugh Maxwell* at *Strathmartine*, Mr. *Thomas Rendal* at *Inchſtouer*, Mr. *James Playfair* at *Benvie*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Robert Pitcairn* Writer in *Dundee*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Aberbrothwick*, Mr. *John Henderſon* at *St. Vigians*, Mr. *Robert Trail* at *Panbride*, MINISTERS; the Hon. Mr. *John Maul* of *Inverkillor*, one of the Barons of Exchequer, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Brechin*, Mr. *David Ferguſon* at *Farnwell*, Mr. *David Blair* at *Brechin*, Mr. *Patrick Turnbull* at *Strickathrow*, MINISTERS; *Robert Scot* of *Dunninald*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Fordoun*, Mr. *Anthony Dow* at *Fettercairn*, Mr. *James Smith* at *Garvock*, Mr. *Robert Young* at *Benholm*, MINISTERS; *John Young* of *Stank*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, Mr. *James Howie* at *Newhills*, Mr. *Robert Melvil* at *Durris*, Mr. *Thomas Rag* at *Belhelvie*, Mr. *James Nicolſon* at *Banchory*, MINISTERS; *William Grant* of *Preſtongrange*, Eſq; his Majeſty's Advocate, *Alexander Robertſon* Provoſt of *Aberdeen*, RULING ELDERS: King's College, Mr. *John Lumſden* Profeſſor of Divinity therein: Mariſhal College, Mr. *Robert Pollock* Profeſſor of Divinity therein: From the Presbytery of *Kincardinoniel*, Mr. *George Shepherd* at *Tarland*, Mr. *William MacKenzie* at *Glenmuck*, Mr. *George Campbell* at *Banchoryternan*, MINISTERS; Sir *Arthur Forbes* of *Craigievar*, Bart. RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Alford*, Mr. *Theodore Gordon* at *Kennethmont*, Mr. *Francis Adam* at *Cuſhney*, Mr.

Maxwell at *Achindore*, MINISTERS: From the Presbytery of *Ellon*, Mr. *Alexander Howie* at *Tarvis*, Mr. *Alexander Knolls* at *Methlick*, MINISTERS: From the Presbytery of *Garioch*, Mr. *James Chalmers* at *Daviot*, Mr. *Alexander Gordon* at *Kintore*, Mr. *Thomas Shepherd* at *Bourty*, MINISTERS; the Right Hon. the Lord *Drummore*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Deer*, Mr. *John Brown* at *Longside*, Mr. *Thomas Anderson* at *Aberdour*, Mr. *James Johnston* at *Crimond*, MINISTERS; the Right Hon. the Lord *Strichen* RULING ELDER: from the Presbytery of *Turreff*, Mr. *Alexander Wilson* at *Alva*, Mr. *George Gordon* at *Drumblade*, MINISTERS; *George Ironside* in *Alva*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Fordyce*, Mr. *James Anderson* at *Boyndie*, Mr. *James Lawtie* at *Fordice*, MINISTERS; *George Fordice* in *Meikle-Raittie*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Strathbogie*, Mr. *Alexander Stewart* at *Grange*, Mr. *Alexander Chalmers* at *Cairnie*, MINISTERS: From the Presbytery of *Aberlour*, Mr. *George Grant* at *Boharm*, Mr. *James Gray* at *Rothes*, MINISTERS; the Right Hon. Lord *Elchies*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Abernethy*, Mr. *William Blair* at *Kinguisie*, Mr. *George Grant* at *Kirkmichael*, MINISTERS; Mr. *John Grant* younger of *Elchies*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Elgin*, Mr. *Alexander Irvine* at *Elgin*, Mr. *John Paterson* at *St. Andrews*, MINISTERS; Mr. *Joseph Brodie* of *Miltoun*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Forress*, Mr. *Robert Dunbar* at *Dyke*, Mr. *Robert Dalrymple* at *Dollas*, MINISTERS; *Alexander Sutor in Grieveship*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Inverness*, Mr. *James Lesly* at *Moy*, Mr. *Patrick Grant* at *Calder*, MINISTERS; *John Baillie* Writer to Signet, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Chanonry*, Mr. *Robert Munro* at *Kilmuir Wester*, Mr. *Hector MacPhail* at *Culicudden*, MINISTERS; *Alexander Gordon* of *Ardoch*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Tain*, Mr. *Daniel Beton* at *Rosekeen*, Mr. *Patrick Grant* at *Logie-easter*, MINISTERS; the Hon. the Master of *Ross*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dingwall*, Mr. *Andrew Robertson* at *Kiltearn*, Mr. *Colin MacKenzie* at *Fodderty*, MINISTERS; *Albert Munro* of *Coul*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Abertarph*, Mr. *Thomas Fraser* at *Boleskine*, Mr. *Duncan M'Pherson* at *Laggan*, MINISTERS; Sir *Archibald Grant* of *Monymusk*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Skye*, Mr. *John MacPherson* at *Slait*, Mr. *Donald Nicolson* at *Strath*, MINISTERS: From the Presbytery of *Lewis*, Mr. *John Clark* at *Stornaway*, Mr. *Murdo Morison* at *Barvas*, MINISTERS: From the Presbytery of *Vist*, Mr. *John MacAulay* at South *Vist*, Mr. *Donald MacLeod* at North

North *Vist*. MINISTERS; From the Presbytery of *Gairloch*, Mr *Æneas Mac Aulay at Gairloch*, Mr. *John Beton* at *Glenshiel*, MINISTERS; *Kenneth Mackenzie* in *Lochcarron*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Dornoch*, Mr. *Robert Kirk* at *Dornoch*, Mr. *James Smith* at *Criech*, MINISTERS; *Andrew MacCulloch*, Baillie of *Dornoch*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Tong*, Mr. *Murdo MacDonald* at *Diurness*, Mr. *John Munro* at *Edrachillis*, MINISTERS; Captain *George MacKay*, RULING ELDER: From the Presbytery of *Caithness*, Mr. *James Oswald* at *Dunnet*, Mr. *John Sinclair* at *Wattin*, MINISTERS; *George Sinclair* of *Ulbster*, RULING ELDER: His Grace *James* Duke of *Athole*, his Grace *Archibald* Duke of *Argyle*, the most Honourable *John* Marquis of *Tweeddale*, the Right Honourable *James* Earl of *Morton*, the Right Honourable Sir *Gilbert Elliot* of *Minto*, Mr. *Patrick Campbell* of *Monzie*, Mr. *John Sinclair* of *Murkle*, three of the Senators of the College of Justice, Sir *John Clerk* of *Pennycuick*, one of the Barons of Exchequer, RULING ELDERS, to be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the Effects after-mentioned, with Power to the said Commissioners, or their *Quorum*, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty-one of the said Commissioners, whereof Twenty-one are always to be Ministers, to meet and conveen, within the Assembly-house at *Edinburgh*, the first Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, and thereafter the first *Wednesday* of *August*, and second *Wednesdays* of *November* and *March* next to come, and oftner, when and where they shall think fit and convenient; with Power to the said Commissioners, to chuse their own Moderator: And likeways the General Assembly fully impowers their said Commissioners, or their *Quorum* above-mentioned, to cognosce and finally determine, as they shall see Cause, in every Matter referred, or that shall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Assembly, and to do every Thing contained in, and conform to the Instructions given, or to be given by this Assembly; and to advert to the Interest of the Church on every Occasion, that the Church, and present Establishment thereof, do not suffer or sustain any Prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be answerable: Providing always, that this general Clause be not extended to particular Affairs, or Processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, That no private Processes be determined, except at the four stated Diets, and what shall be determined at one Diet of the Commission, with relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in Force till disapproven by the General Assembly; and the

General

General Assembly renews the Instructions, given by the General Assembly, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and seventeen, to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full Force, as Instructions to the Commissioners before-named, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially here insert: And that they inquire into the publishing and spreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconsistent with our *Confession of Faith*; and that the Recommenders of such Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein-contained, whether by Word, Writ, or Print, be called before the said Commission to answer for the same. And further, the said Commission is hereby impowered to receive any References and Appeals that shall be made to them from Synods, in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen such Affairs for the General Assembly, and to contribute what they can to the suppressing of Vice and Immorality; and give all needful Advice and Assistance to Synods and Presbyteries, upon Application to them for that End: Likeways to take Care that the Impressions of the *Holy Scriptures*, *the Confession of Faith*, *and Catechisms*, and such Books as are authorised by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government thereof, be correct, and give Directions about printing the same. And the said Commission are appointed and impowered to keep a Correspondence with the Committee for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Islands*, for suppressing Popery and Superstition, and for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, and carrying on a Reformation in these Parts, and give Assistance and Concurrence therein; and, if Need be, to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy and speedy Redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matters, than what are committed and referred to them, as above-mentioned. And, in all their Actings, they are to to proceed according to the Acts and Constitution of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the same; declaring, that in, and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to, and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see cause: And this Commission is to continue and endure, untill another Commission be appointed; and Members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission, and Absents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Assembly, held in the Year One thousand seven hundred and six; and for the better securing of a *Quorum*, and Attendance of Members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, or any other Presbytery within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting

ing of this Commission; and such of the Members of these Presbyteries as are on the Commission, are required, all of them, to give Attendance on the Diets thereof; and the Presbyteries at a greater Distance, who have four or more Members on the Commission, are to take Care that at least two of them attend each Diet of the same: And the Assembly appoint their Commission, at their first Meeting, to discuss as many of the Causes and Questions, relative to the Settlement of vacant Churches, which are or shall be referred to them by the Assembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, That when any Presbytery or Synod of this Church shall decline to comply with the Sentences of the Commission, or to give the same a full Execution; in that Case, the Commission is hereby prohibited to execute the same, by appointing any such correspondent Meetings, as has been sometimes the Practice, but shall allow the same to ly over to the ensuing Assembly, to which such Presbyteries or Synods shall be answerable for such their Conduct, and are hereby appointed to send up with their Commissioners their Reasons for the same. And the Assembly do further impower and direct the said Commission to make due Application to the King and Parliament for Redress of the Grievance of Patronage, in case a favourable Opportunity for so doing shall occur, during the Subsistence of this Commission. And the General Assembly do enjoin their Commission, that in passing their Sentences, and in ordering the Execution of the same, they strictly observe the 12th Act of the Assembly 1736.

VIII.

Congratulatory Address to his Majesty, upon Occasion of the General Peace.

Edinburgh, May 22*d* 1749, *Sess. ult.*

To the King's most excellent Majesty,

The humble ADDRESS of the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*.

May it please your Majesty,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and faithful Subjects, the Ministers and Elders met in the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, humbly beg Leave to approach your Throne with our most hearty Congratulations on the happy Return of the national Tranquillity.

WHILE, warm'd with a just Sense of the Divine Goodness, we adore the Almighty Hand which hath turned War into Peace, how ungrateful should we be, did we not acknowledge your Majesty as the great Instrument, under God, of procuring to us this inestimable Blessing.

AMBITIOUS to express on every Occasion the most dutiful and affectionate Regard for your sacred Person and Government, we embrace with Joy this first Opportunity of testifying our unfeigned Satisfaction in the Success of your Majesty's Arms and Councils; by which, thro' the Divine Favour, we are now so happily secured in the undisturbed Exercise of the best Religion, and the full Enjoyment of all the Blessings of a *British* Constitution.

PERMIT us, Great Sir, to say, that while other Countries, amidst the continued Oppression of despotick Power, scarce feel Relief from the Calamities of War, it is our distinguished Privilege, to be the Subjects of a Prince, no less ready to bless his People with the Comforts of Peace, than to draw the Sword in Defence of their just Rights and Liberties; and we should doubtless be most unworthy of your Royal Favour, if we did not, in our Stations, contribute our best Endeavours to improve the Publick Tranquillity, for promoting Religion, Virtue and Loyalty, which alone can render Peace truly valuable to us, and the Nation happy and glorious.

PERMIT us, likewise, to assure your Majesty, that the late Increase of your Royal Family, affords us the sincerest Joy: We cease not to give Thanks to our GOD, through our LORD JESUS CHRIST, for every new Accession of Strength to your illustrious House; whence we have the more abundant Hope, that Peace shall remain within the Walls of our *Jerusalem*, and Prosperity in all her Palaces.

AND it is our constant Prayer to the Father of Mercies, that your Majesty may be long preserved to be the Protector of the Religious and Civil Rights of Mankind, and to make *Britain* still more happy and glorious in the Enjoyment of Peace and Liberty; that you may be high in the special Favour of God; that he may abundantly bless their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke, the Princesses, the Issue of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family; that, after you have acted a shining Part on Earth, as the Father of your People, and the faithful Servant of God, you may inherit a Crown of Glory, that fadeth not away; And

that

that your Posterity may fill the *British* Throne with Honour and Renown, to latest Ages.

These are the fervent, unfeigned Prayers of,

May it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful most dutiful, and most loyal Subjects.

Sign'd in our Name, in our Presence, and at our Appointment, by

PATRICK CUMING *Moderator.*

IX.

ACT appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly.

Edinburgh, May 22*d* 1749. *Sess. ult.*

THE next General Assembly of this national Church, is appointed to be held in this Place upon the second *Thursday* of *May* next, being the Tenth Day of that Month, in the Year 1750.

Collected and extracted, from the Records of the General Assembly, by

GEORGE WISHART, *Cls. Eccl. Scot.*

Overture about the Psalmody.

Edinburgh, May 19*th* 1749. *Sess.* 8*th.*

THE Committee for Overtures transmitted to the Assembly their Opinion concerning the Overture with respect to the Translations and Paraphrases of sacred Scripture, and the Assembly considering that Amendments have been proposed by several Presbyteries, but that by far the greatest Part of them have

as

as yet ſent up no Opinion; and it being repreſented that, in the Confuſions of the late Rebellion, many Presbyteries had loſt the Copies which had been ſent them, the General Aſſembly do again remit this Matter to the Committee named for the ſame Purpoſe by preceeding Aſſemblies, and do inſtruct them to conſider the Amendments which have been offered, and to admit ſuch of them as they judge proper and material, and to cauſe print a new Impreſſion of the Collections ſo amended, and ſend Copies of the ſame to the ſeveral Presbyteries, who are hereby appointed to ſend up their Opinion to the next General Aſſembly.

OVERTURE about the more frequent Celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Edinburgh, 19th May, 1749, Seſſ. 8.

THE Committee for Overtures brought in a Report, that there had been laid before them Overtures from three Synods, concerning the more frequent Celebration of the Lord's Supper, and propoſed the Aſſemby ſhould appoint a ſpecial Committee to prepare a Draught of an Overture, to be tranſmitted to Presbyteries for their Opinion thereupon; the General Aſſembly having heard the ſaid Report, do recommend to Presbyteries, to ſend up their Opinion upon this Subject to the next General Aſſembly.

OVERTURE about licenſing Probationers.

Edinburgh, May 22d 1749.

THE Committee for Overtures tranſmitted to the Aſſembly their Report concerning the Opinions of the ſeveral Presbyteries upon the Overture about the Manner of licenſing Probationers, containing certain Amendments which they propoſed to be made thereto; and the General Aſſembly appointed that the ſaid Overture, thus amended, be tranſmitted to the ſeveral Preſbyteries, who are hereby appointed to ſend up their Opinion

pinion thereupon to the next General Assembly; the Tenor of which Overture follows.

The General Assembly taking into their serious Consideration the Danger that ariseth to this Church, and to the Souls of People, by licensing any to preach the Gospel, who are not duly qualified, according to the Rules laid down in the Holy Scriptures; and considering, that the several Acts made by former General Assemblies, lye so scatered in many separate Articles, at great Distance from one another, that the Directions therein given, are in Danger of being overlook'd by Presbyteries: Therefore the General Assembly renew all former Acts, and strictly ordain them to be observed by Presbyteries in all time-coming, in Manner following, *viz.*

1*mo*. That no Presbytery admit any Person to probationary Trials, but such as are found to be of good Report, of sufficient Learning, sound Principles, of a pious, sober, grave, and prudent Behaviour, and of a peaceable Disposition, and well affected to the Government in Church and State, and of whom they have sufficient Grounds to conceive, that they shall be useful and edifying in the Church, and that careful Enquiry be made thereanent; and that, without Respect of Persons, such as are esteemed to be light and vain in their Behaviour, imprudent, proud, worldly-minded, or unacquainted with the Power of practical Godliness, be kept back from that sacred Work. Act Assembly 1694. Act Assembly 1696. Act 16th Assembly 1705.

2*do*. That none be admitted to Trials, in order to be licensed, but such as have attended the Profession of Divinity for six Years, or have closely followed the Study of Divinity, and of the Languages for that Space, at least, after they have passed their full Course of Philosophy at the College, and made Proficiency therein, in case their Circumstances did not allow them to attend the Profession, though it were to be desired they should attend the Profession of Divinity, much of that Time; and that the School Degrees be enquired after. Act 10th Assembly 1711.

3*tio*. The General Assembly considering the Reproach that may be brought on Religion in general, and particularly on this Church, by the unworthy Behaviour of such as follow the Study of Divinity, do earnestly recommend to the Presbyteries, Professors of Divinity, and Ministers and Members of this Church, to keep a watchful Eye on such Students, during the said six Years. And further, That when any Student comes to attend the Profession of Divinity in any University, he shall produce to the Professor, and to the Minister of the Parish where he is to reside, during the Time of his Attendance on the Pro- Act 10th Assembly 1705.

feſſion, a Teſtimonial from the Miniſter from whence he comes; and, when he leaves the Profeſſion, he ſhall carry back Teſtimonials from the Miniſter of the Pariſh, of his grave and ſuitable Behaviour becoming his Character, and from the Profeſſor, teſtifying the ſame; and alſo his regular Attendance on the Diets of the Profeſſion, and the Time he has attended. And when any Profeſſor of Divinity ſhall think fit to recommend a Student, in order to probationary Trials, his Teſtimonials ſhall bear not only his Proficiency in his Studies, but his Judgment of his moral and Chriſtian Character; and that, in his Opinion, ſuch an one may be uſeful and edifying in the Work of the Miniſtry.

Act. 22d. Aſſ. 1696.

Act 12th Aſſ. 1727.

4to. The General Aſſembly do appoint and ordain, That no Presbytery admit any Student to probationary Trials, except ſuch as have reſided within their Bounds for the Space of ſix Months, or do produce to them ſufficient Teſtimonials from the Presbyteries in whoſe Bounds they have lived, or, for the moſt Part, reſided, expreſſing, that it is the Deſire of theſe Presbyteries, that theſe Students ſhould be enter'd upon Trials. And ſuch Students as come from abroad, ſhall produce ſatisfying Teſtimonials from the Profeſſors under whom they ſtudied, and the Time of their being abroad ſhall be accounted a Part of the ſix Years, but none of theſe Students ſhall be enter'd upon Trials for the Space of half a Year after they come to *Scotland*.

Act 10th Aſſ. 1711.

Act 6th Aſſ. 1714.

5to. When any Student is propoſed to a Presbytery, in order to be taken on Trials, the Propoſal ſhall ly on the Table till the next ordinary Meeting, before they give Judgement therein, that diligent Enquiry may be made, and Information had concerning the ſaid Student's Qualifications and Behaviour; and the Presbytery ſhall be alone both when the Propoſal is made and judged on. And the General Aſſembly enjoins all Students, to take all Opportunities of cultivating an Acquaintance with the Miniſters of the Presbytery where they reſide, and where they are to paſs Trials.

6to. When the Presbytery, after ſerious Enquiry and mature Deliberation, ſhall agree to take the propoſed Candidate on Trials, before his Entry thereto, the General Aſſembly appoints them, by themſelves, or a Committee of their Number, to take a private and previous Trial of the Progreſs he has made in the *Latin*, *Greek* and *Hebrew* Languages, in the Study of Philoſophy, and his Knowledge in Divinity, Theoretical, Polemical and Practical, eſpecially ſuch Points as ſhall be Matter of the preſent

Act 10th Aſſ. 1711.

ſent Debates and Controverſies; his Acquaintance with the holy Scriptures, and what Impreſſion he has of Religion on his own Soul; his Knowledge of the Conſtitution of the primitive Chriſtian Church, and alſo of our own, and of the Government and Diſcipline thereof; and of his ſpiritual Wiſdom to deal with the ſeveral Sorts of Perſons he may have to do with, namely, Atheiſts, Deſpiſers of Religion, careleſs and ſecure Perſons, weak and tender Conſciences, and others, wherein the great Difficulty of the Paſtoral Charge lyes; and particularly anent his Ends and Intentions in entering upon the preaching of the Goſpel; and that they appoint three or four of their Number for managing the ſaid Trials. And the General Aſſembly further appoint the ſeveral Presbyteries concerned, to take ſpecial Care that theſe Trials be not managed in an overly and ſuperficial Manner, but as in the Sight of GOD, and our LORD JESUS CHRIST, the alone King and Head of his Church; and either to reject, or delay to further Trial, ſuch as are found not ſufficiently qualified. Act. 22d Aſſ. 1696. Act, Seſſ. 23d. Aſſ. 1638. renewed. Act 10. Aſſ. 1704.

7mo. The General Aſſembly appoints the ſame Method to be obſerved, and Trials to be taken in all the above Particulars, before any Presbytery recommend a Student to paſs Trials in another Presbytery.

8vo. The General Aſſembly do alſo appoint and ordain, that, the above Space of ſix Years being expired, and Teſtimonials produced, and previous Trials taken in Manner above-directed, the Presbytery, before they preſcribe any Part of publick Trials, ſhall write Letters to all the Preſbyteries within the Bounds of the Synod, three Months at leaſt before the ſitting of the Synod, acquainting them with their Deſign; and at the ſaid next Meeting of the Synod they ſhall alſo acquaint the Synod thereof, and obtain their ſpecial Advice and Judgment in that Particular; and that the Members of the ſaid Presbytery and Synod may be ripely adviſed thereanent, the General Aſſembly appoints the ſaid Letters to be duly and carefully tranſmitted to the ſeveral Presbyteries, and that Intimation thereof be publickly made at the ſecond Diet of the Synod, to ly on the Table till another Diet, and then particular Enquiry be made, whether any Perſon have any Thing to object againſt the Student's being enter'd on Trials for preaching the Goſpel. Provided always, that in any Part of this Church where Synods meet but once a Year, a Student may be propoſed to the Synod, five Years and a half after he has left the Study of Philoſophy in the Univerſity. Act 10th Aſſ. 1711

9no the General Aſſembly recommends to Presbyteries, that, before any Student is entered on Trials, the Engagements

gagements required by Act 10. Aſſembly 1711, of ſuch as are to be licenſed be read to them; and that the Presbytery take Promiſe of them, that they will ſubſcribe to, and punctually obſerve the ſame, in caſe the Presbytery ſee Cauſe to licenſe them; and that this Promiſe be recorded in their Books.

Act 6th Aſſ. 1714.

10*mo*, The General Aſſembly appoints the publick probationary Trials of Students, who are to be licenſed Probationers to be theſe following, *viz.* 1*mo*, The Catechetick Trials to be renewed in Preſence of the Presbytery, and that previouſly to all the other Parts of publick Trials, 2*do*, A Homily in *Engliſh* on a Scripture Text. 3*tio*, An Exegeſis in *Latin*, on a controverted Head of Divinity, and ſuſtaining a Theſis and Diſpute thereon. 4*to*, An Exerciſe and Addition. 5*to*, A Lecture on a large Portion of Scripture. 6*to*, A popular Sermon on a particular Text of Scripture. 7*mo*, A Trial on Chronology and Church-Hiſtory, eſpecially the Hiſtory of our own Church. *Laſtly*, To interpret the *Greek* of the New Teſtament *ad aperturam libri*, and not only to tranſlate and analiſe any Portion of the *Hebrew* Bible preſcribed by the Presbytery, but alſo to read the *Hebrew* Text *ad aperturam libri*.

11*mo*, The General Aſſembly judging it fit, that the ſame Method ſhould be followed in all Presbyteries, as to Queſtions put to, and Engagements taken of Probationers when licenced; and that the ſaid Probationers ſhould not only give ſufficient Proof of their Piety, Literature, and other good Qualifications for the ſacred Miniſtry, but alſo come under the ſtricteſt Engagements to adhere to, and maintain the Doctrine, Worſhip, Diſcipline and Government of this Church, do therefore Enact and Appoint, that the Queſtions appointed by Act 10. 1711, be put to all ſuch as paſs Trials; and likewiſe that they ſhall ſubſcribe the *Formula* ſet down in the ſaid Act, before they be licenſed to preach the Goſpel. And the General Aſſembly ſtrictly prohibites the licenſing any Perſon whatſomever, who ſhall not give explicite and ſatisfying Anſwers to theſe Queſtions, and ſubſcribe the ſaid *Formula*, and diſcharges any Presbytery to make uſe of any other Queſtions or Formula.

Act 10th Aſſ. 1711

Act 10th Aſſ. 1717.

12*mo*, When any Presbytery, who, with the Synod's Allowance, has enter'd, or who is about to enter a Student on Trials, ſhall receive a Letter from any Presbytery, ſhewing their Diſſatisfaction with the Student enter'd, or to be enter'd on Trials, and giving relevant Grounds for the ſame, which they offer to verify to the Presbytery at their next Meeting, the ſaid Student ſhall not be licenſed until the Matter be tried. And the General Aſſembly appoints Presbyteries,

Act 12th Aſſ. 1727.

teries, who shall receive such Letters anent Students, from any other Presbytery, to write a Return with the first Post after their Meeting, acquainting them of their next Diet.

13*mo*, The General Assembly considering, that some Persons who, upon Application to the Judicatories of this Church, have not been admitted on Trials, or have not been found fit and worthy to be licensed to preach, do yet retire out of the Bounds of this Church, where they are not so well known, in order to enter upon Trials, and, after they have been licensed, do not recommend themselves by a holy Life and ministerial Conversation, to the Reproach of the Church of *Scotland* where they were educated: Therefore the General Assembly do hereby inhibite and discharge all young Men, educated in this Church, or Students of Divinity, to go to foreign Places, and offer themselves to Trials for Licence to preach the Gospel, without Testimonials and Recommendations from their Presbytery, as above directed. And further order and appoint, That no Student whatsomever, coming from abroad, shall be allowed to preach within this Church, as one of our Probationers, until it appear documented, that they have followed the Study of Divinity for six Years, after their finishing their Course of Philosophy, and until they undergo a-new their catechetick Trials, and come under the Engagements, and sign the *Formula* appointed by Act 10. Assembly 1711, and it appear by their Licence, that the said Probationers have been licensed by a regular constitute Presbytery, or Classical Meeting. Act 12th Ass. 1711. Act 6th Ass. 1736.

14*mo*, For the better Observation of this Act, it is particularly recommended to the Professors of Divinity, to communicate the Contents thereof to their Students, in a publick Meeting annually, at such Time in the Month of *January* as to them seem most convenient. And all Presbyteries and Synods are peremptorily appointed to observe the same in all its Parts: And 'tis strictly enjoined, that the Visitors of Presbytery-Books make strict Enquiry how the several Presbyteries do observe the same.

A

TABLE of the Printed ACTS of the *General Assembly*, held in the Year 1749.

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OF THE

Acts and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, held in the Year 1749, which are not printed at full Length.

AFTER Sermon by the Rev. Mr. *George Wishart*, one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, Moderator of the last General Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders, Members of this Assembly, did conveen, and Mr. *Patrick Cuming*, one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, being chosen Moderator; he, at the Assembly's Desire, took the Chair, and Mr. *George Wishart* did take his Place as principal Clerk to the Assembly. *May* 11th, *Sess.* 1.

The King's Commission to *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, to represent His Majesty's Royal Person in this Assembly, read and recorded *Ibid.*

The King's most gracious Letter to this Assembly, read, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Commissioner's Speech at opening this Assembly, and the Moderator's Speech in return thereto. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to draw an Answer to the King's most gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

The King's Warrant for 1000 *l. Sterling* as his Royal Bounty, for maintaining Itinerant Preachers and Catechists in the *Highlands* and *Islands*, given in by His Majesty's Commissioner, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to revise the Commissions to Members of this Assembly, censure Absents from the Diets of this Assembly, name Ministers to preach before his Grace the King's Commissioner, receive in Lists of Probationers in the several Presbyteries, in order to be recorded, and of Students in Divinity, at the several Universities, and report. *Ibid.*

Committee for Overtures named. *Ibid.*

Committee for Bills, References and Appeals named. *Ibid.*

A Diet spent in Prayer. *May* 12th, *Sess.* 2.

Ministers named to preach before his Grace the King's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Act 7th of the Assembly 1718, for the better Dispatch

of

of Buſineſs, read, and the Obſervation thereof enjoined. *Ibid.*

The Draught of an Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, brought in and approven, and his Grace the Commiſſioner undertakes to tranſmit the ſame to his Majeſty. *May* 13th, *Seſſ.* 3.

A Committee of Perſons in each Synod appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Actings of the Commiſſion of the late General Aſſembly, audite the Procurator and Agents Accompts, conſider the State of the Church's publick Money, and prepare Overtures about the ſame, agreeable to the 7th Act of the General Aſſembly 1712, and 8th Act of Aſſembly 1719; and all Petitions and Claims for any Part of the ſaid Money, ordered to be laid before the ſaid Committee, and they are alſo to prepare any Overtures or References made by the late Commiſſion to this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Committee named by the laſt Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*. *Ibid.*

Committees named for reviſing the Synod Books of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, *Argyle*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Fife*, *Moray*, *Roſs* and *Glenelg*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Orkney*, *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Aberdeen*, *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, abſent, and reſolved that the Reaſons thereof be enquired into. *Ibid.*

The Committee for Overtures appointed to receive the Inſtructions from the ſeveral Presbyteries and Synods, and conſider the ſame, and report. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee for reviſing Commiſſions, bearing that there were no Elders appointed in the Commiſſions from the Presbyteries of *North Iſles*, *Alford*, and *Strathbogie*; that the Commiſſion from the Presbytery of *Lanerk* bears, that the Elder, therein-mentioned, had ſigned the *Formula* according to the Act 1749; that the Commiſſion from the Burgh of *Dyſart*, tho' atteſted by the Presbytery, is not atteſted by the Seſſion; yet the ſame ought to be ſuſtained, in reſpect, no Reaſons are aſſigned by the Seſſion for refuſing to atteſt it; that the Commiſſion from the Burgh of *Whithorn* is agreeable to the eſtabliſhed Form, and atteſted by the Seſſion; but upon the Presbyteries refuſing to appoint a Meeting in their ordinary Place, in due time, for atteſting the ſaid Commiſſion, an Appeal is taken by the Burgh, and alſo a Proteſt and Appeal by the Moderator of the Seſſion,

sion, and Reasons of Appeal offered, but no Answers by the Presbytery brought in; and the Commission from the Presbytery of *Lanerk* sustained, with a Recommendation to them to be more careful in having their Commissions revised, and exactly compared before giving out the same; the Conduct of the Presbytery of *Wigtoun*, touching the Commission from the Burgh of *Whithorn*, delayed till the Appeal above-mentioned come regularly in; and it is recommended to the foresaid Presbyteries of *North-Isles*, *Alfoord* and *Strathbogie*, in time coming, to chuse Elders as well as Ministers, Commissioners to the General Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Memorial and Petition of *Allan Livingston*, Keeper of the Advocates Bar in the Parliament or new Session-house, containing a Proposal, that, as some other Societies give him some Allowance yearly for permitting their Members to enter that Bar in time of Session, the Assembly might please settle something annually on him, in which Case, all the Ministers of this Church would have free Access, on any publick or private Business, without any Fee, or other Reward; remitted to the Committee on the publick Accompts, to consider what Sum should be allowed Mr. *Livingston*, and report their Opinion to the Assembly. *Ibid.*

An Appeal by the Kirk-Session of *Burntisland*, from a Judgment of the Synod of *Fife*, dismissing a Process brought before them, by Reference from the Presbytery of *Kirkcaldy*, against Mr. *James Wilson* School-master at *Burntisland*, charging him with scandalous and most lascivious Behaviour, is referred to the Commission, with Power to them to cognosce and determine therein as they find just. *Ibid.*

The Request of the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, in Behalf of Mr. *James Mitchel* Minister at old *Machar*, for having a Process depending at his Instance before the Court of Session, against his Heretors for building his Manse and Office-houses, carried on at the publick Expence, refused. *Ibid.*

A Petition of Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Cashier of the Royal Bounty, granted for Reformation of the *Highlands*, reciting the Recommendation of the Assembly 1747, to the several Presbyteries, to acquaint the missionary Ministers, Preachers, and Catechists upon the Royal Bounty in their Bounds, to send up Receipts for their Salaries in the Time of sitting of the Court of Session, or of the General Assembly, or Commission, read,

and a Committee appointed to prepare the Draught of an Act for that Effect. *Ibid.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Moray*, refuſing the Tranſportation of Mr. *Patrick Grant* Miniſter at *Calder*, to be Miniſter of *Urray*, in the Presbytery of *Dingwall*, reverſed; the ſaid Mr. *Patrick Grant* tranſported from his Charge at *Calder*, to be Miniſter of the ſaid Pariſh of *Urray*; and the Presbytery of *Dingwall* appointed to admit him to the ſaid Pariſh of *Urray*, betwixt and the Firſt of *Auguſt* next; and the Presbytery of *Inverneſs* appointed to declare the Church of *Calder* vacant, the firſt Sabbath after Mr. *Grant* ſhall be admitted to *Urray*. *Ibid.*

A Committee nominated to conſider a Letter from the Presbytery of *Abertarph*, craving, that, agreeable to the Act of Aſſembly *anno* 1724, the Procurator and Agents for the Church be appointed to intent and carry on Proceſſes, and raiſe other Diligence for recovering Stipends to Miniſters in their Bounds, particularly the Miniſter of *Lagan*, who wants Church and Manſe, and has no Decreet for a legal Stipend. *Ibid.*

The Draught of an Act, aſcertaining the Times of Attendance of the Caſhier of the Royal Bounty, for making Payments of Salaries, brought in and approven; and it is declared, that the ſaid Caſhier ſhall not be obliged to give Attendance in *Edinburgh*, to make Payment of Salaries to miſſionary Miniſters, Preachers and Catechiſts upon the Royal Bounty, except in time of the ſitting of the Court of Seſſion, and of the General Aſſembly, and of the ſtated Meetings of the Commiſſion; and the ſeveral Presbyteries are appointed to acquaint the ſaid Miniſters, Preachers and Catechiſts, in their reſpective Bounds, thereof. *May 15th, Seſſ.* 4.

An Overture from the Committee for Overtures, with relation to the Reaſonableneſs and Neceſſity of an Augmentation of the Generality of the Miniſters Stipends, brought in, and the Conſideration thereof delayed till *Wedneſday* next, at Nine o'Clock in the Morning; and all Inſtructions, or Overtures from Synods or Presbyteries, ordered to be lodged in the Clerk's Hands betwixt and that time. *Ibid.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, finding that Mr. *Lockart* of *Lee*, who had given his Preſentation to Mr. *Robert Dick* Probationer, to be Miniſter of *Lanerk*, has the preferable Right to that claimed by the Town of *Lanerk*, who had preſented Mr. *James Gray* Miniſter at *Rothes*, in whoſe Favour alſo a Preſentation from the Crown

Crown was granted, to be Miniſter of the ſaid Town and Pariſh of *Lanerk*, affirmed; and it is remitted to the Preſbytery of *Lanerk* to conſider the Import of the Crown's Right, and to proceed further to the Settlement of the ſaid Pariſh, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*

A Complaint of Mr. *Charles Cochran* of *Culroſs*, Patron of the Pariſh of *Culroſs*, againſt the Committee for Bills, for not tranſmitting to the Aſſembly a Petition, tabling an Appeal entered by him from a Sentence of the Synod of *Fife*, affirming a Judgment and Proceedings of the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, in moderating a Call to, and afterwards actually ſettling Mr. *James Stoddart* to be ſecond Miniſter of the ſaid Town and Pariſh of *Culroſs*, notwithſtanding of his having preſented Mr. *William Trotter* to ſupply that Charge, delayed till another Diet, and a Committee appointed to converſe with Mr. *Cochran* on the Subject of the ſaid Complaint, and report. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider a Petition of certain Heretors, Elders, and others, in that Part of the Country intended for the new Erection of a Pariſh at *Norriſton*, praying that the Aſſembly would authoriſe the Presbytery of *Dumblane*, under whoſe Management the Fund contributed for that intended new Erection is, to beſtow 500 *Merks* yearly of the Annualrents thereof, for ſupporting a Miniſter or Preacher, to perform the neceſſary Duties of his Office amongſt that People in the mean time, until it be found convenient to proſecute and make effectual that Erection, and to report a State of the Affair to the Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Committees appointed to reviſe the Synod Books of *Orkney* and *Aberdeen*. *May* 16*th*, *Seſſ.* 5.

The Report of the Committee appointed to conſider the Application in Behalf of the People of the intended new Erection at *Norriſton*, brought in and approven; and accordingly the Presbytery of *Dumblane* are appointed, with all convenient Expedition, to employ a Preacher to be ſtationed at *Norriſton*, to inſtruct that People, by preaching, catechiſing and viſiting the Sick within the Bounds of the ſaid intended new Erection; and the ſaid Presbytery are impowered to uplift the Sum of 500 *Merks Scots* yearly, to be paid by them to the ſaid Preacher annually, while employed in the forſaid Work among that People; and that the remaining Annualrents be accumulated with the Capital Stock from time to time, until the Presbytery of *Dumblane* ſhall be appointed by the General Aſſembly

ſembly to take proper Methods for getting the ſaid intended Erection legally eſtabliſhed. *Ibid.*

The Caſhier of the Royal Bounty appointed, during the ſitting of the General Aſſembly, and the four quarterly Meetings of the Commiſſion, and alſo during the ſitting of all Summer and Winter Seſſions, to give Attendance at the Hall of the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowlege, upon *Tueſday* and *Thurſday* each Week, betwixt the Hours of Ten and Twelve in the Forenoon, in order to anſwer all the Demands that ſhall be made in Behalf of any of the miſſionary Miniſters, Preachers or Catechiſts, for their Salaries out of the Royal Bounty. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to prepare the Draught of an Addreſs to his Majeſty on the happy Iſſue of the late War, in a juſt and honourable Peace. *Ibid.*

A Sentence of the Presbytery of *Dunſe*, finding, that a Preſentation given by Mr. *John Hay* of *Belton* to Mr. *Adam Dickſon* Probationer, to be Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Dunſe*, was no bar to their Proceeding to moderate a Call at large for ſupplying the ſaid Vacancy, reverſed; and the ſaid Presbytery appointed to moderate in a Call to the ſaid Mr. *Adam Dickſon* Probationer, to be Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Dunſe*, and that betwixt and the Firſt of *Auguſt* next, excluding all others from being upon the Leet. *Ibid.*

The Overture brought in on Monday laſt, reſpecting the Augmentation of Stipends of the Miniſters of this Church, read, and a Committee named to prepare the Draught of Inſtructions to be given to a Committee, to be appointed by this Aſſembly, to take that Matter under Conſideration, and to report what ſhall, upon proper Inquiry, appear to them, to the next General Aſſembly, in order to their making Application to Parliament for an Augmentation of Stipends, or providing ſuch other Remedy as to them ſhall ſeem meet. *May 17th, Seſſ. 6.*

The Truſtees of the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows, *&c.* authoriſed to iſſue their Warrants upon the Collector General, in caſe there be Money in his Hands, for lending of 30 *l.* upon Bond, to each of the Miniſters now in Town, or others, to whom there may be a convenient Opportunity of ſending it, and who have not yet received the ſame; in regard that, according to the Rule formerly laid down, all would of Courſe receive the ſame within a Year. *Ibid.*

The Committee, named for drawing up the Addreſs to his Majeſty, appointed to meet at riſing of this Sederunt of the

the Assembly, with Power to them thereafter to adjourn to such Times and Places as they shall find convenient. *Ibid.*

The Presbytery of *Perth* appointed to moderate in a Call to Mr. *James Oswald* Minister at *Dunnet*, alone, to be Minister of the Parish of *Methven*, he having accepted of a Presentation thereto from *David Smith* of *Methven*, Patron of the said Parish; and the Commission are impowered, at their Meeting in *November*, or any subsequent Meeting, to take in, cognosce and finally determine in any Reference or Appeal that shall regularly be brought before them, relative to that Settlement. *May 18th, Sess. 7.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Fife*, affirming a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Kirkcaldy*, refusing to grant a limited Moderation of a Call to Mr. *Niel Beton* Probationer, presented by the Crown to be Minister of the Parish of *Kennoway*, reversed, and the said Presbytery appointed to proceed to the Moderation of a Call to the said Mr. *Neil Beton* alone, and that betwixt and the first of *August* next; and the Commission are impowered to take in, cognosce and finally determine in any Reference or Appeal that shall regularly be brought before them, relative to that Settlement, and that at their Meeting in *November* next or any subsequent Meeting. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee named to draw up the Instructions to be given to the Committe to be appointed for having under Consideration what concerns the Augmentation to Ministers Stipends, brought in, read and approven, as follows, *viz.*

The Committee is instructed,

1*mo*, To get an Account of the just Value of all the Stipends in *Scotland*, by how many Heritors they are paid, what Part of them in Money, what in Victual, together with the Extent of their Glebes.

2*do*, They are impowered to enquire into the true Extent and State of the Tithes.

3*tio*, They are instructed to enquire into all other Funds that may be applied, either with or without Authority of Parliament, for augmenting of Stipends.

4*to*, They are further authorised to address Persons in Power, Members of Parliament, the Nobility and Gentry of the landed Interest in *Scotland*, for their Countenance and Assistance for promoting the Relief of Ministers that are not sufficiently provided.

5*to*, The Committee are warranted by the Assembly to call from the Church's Funds for what Money may be found

neceſſary for preparing this Matter for the next General Aſſembly.

6to, The Commiſſion are hereby appointed to give their Advice and Aſſiſtance to the Committee ſo often as they ſhall find it neceſſary to ask the ſame.

7mo, The ſeveral Presbyteries are to ſignify to the Committee, as ſoon as poſſible, their Opinion concerning the ſeveral Particulars aforeſaid.

8vo, Presbyteries and Miniſters are appointed to give to the Committee ſuch Information, with regard to the above Particulars, or ſuch other Facts or Things as the Committee ſhall find neceſſary, and ſhall require; and that, upon ſuch Requiſition made to the Moderator, he is hereby appointed to call a Meeting of his Presbytery *pro re nata*.

Laſtly, The Committee ſhall, after full Enquiry, prepare a Plan of the whole projected Augmentation, and lay the ſame before the next General Aſſembly. And it is appointed that there be five ſtated Meetings of the ſaid Committee, in the Truſtees-Hall for the Widows Scheme, at Ten o'Clock Forenoon; the firſt Meeting upon *Tueſday* next, other three on the *Tueſdays* immediately before each of the other Quarterly Meetings of the Commiſſion in *Auguſt*, *November* and *March*, and the laſt on the *Tueſday* immediately before the Meeting of the next General Aſſembly: And they are impowered to adjourn themſelves to ſuch other Times and Places as they ſhall think proper. *May* 19*th*, *Seſſ.* 8*th*.

Report of the Viſitors of the Commiſſion Book brought in, the Commiſſion's Conduct approved of, their Book ordered to be atteſted, and the Members of the Commiſſion thanked for their Faithfulneſs and Diligence in the Affairs committed them. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to cognoſce and finally determine in a Proceſs carried on before the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, againſt Mr. *Gilbert Man* Miniſter at *Monedie*, and by them referred to this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Members from the Presbyteries within the ſeveral Synods appointed to meet among themſelves, in order to bring in the Nominators of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, according to the 6th Act of the Aſſembly 1705. *Ibid.*

The Appointment on the Committee named to converſe with Mr. *Charles Cochran* of *Culroſs* continued, and the Commiſſion impowered, at their Meeting in *Auguſt*, or any ſubſequent Meeting, to receive the Report of that Committee, and to take in, and judge of the Cauſe, or not, as they ſhall find reaſonable. *Ibid.*

Overture

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Overture about preaching on the Principles of the Reformation and Revolution approven. *Ibid.*

The Overture concerning Proceſſes againſt Probationers ordered to be tranſmitted to ſuch Presbyteries as have ſent up no Reports thereon. *Ibid.*

Overture about the Pſalmody. *Ibid.*

Overture about the more frequent Celebration of the Lord's Supper. *Ibid.*

A Reference from the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns* of a Cauſe brought before them, by Appeal from a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Forfar*, concurring with a Preſentation to Mr. *Robert Traill* to be Miniſter of *Reſcobie*, notwithſtanding of a Call given to Mr. *James Hunter* Probationer to be Miniſter thereof, heard, and the ſaid Presbytery appointed to proceed to the Trials and Settlement of the ſaid Mr. *Robert Traill* to be Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Reſcobie*, with all convenient Diſpatch, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*

The Inſtructions agreed upon to be given to the Committee named to have under Conſideration what concerns the Augmentation of Miniſters Stipends, ordered to be forthwith printed, and Copies thereof tranſmitted to every Presbytery in this Church. *May 20th, Seſſ. 9th.*

A Liſt of Members from the ſeveral Synods brought in, and appointed as a Committee to draw the Commiſſion and Inſtructions, and name the Members of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Viſitors of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly for managing the Royal Bounty for Reformation of the *Highlands*, *&c.* brought in, and their Remarks remitted to the Conſideration of the Committee to be appointed by this Aſſembly; and the ſaid Regiſter was ordered to be atteſted. *Ibid.*

The Draught of a Commiſſion to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty brought in and approved of. *Ibid.*

The Appointment on the Committee formerly named to conſider the Propoſal of having the Royal Bounty applied for new Erections of Pariſhes renewed. *Ibid.*

A Sentence of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweedale*, appointing the Presbytery of *Linlithgow* to proceed to the Trials and Settlement of Mr. *James Watſon* Probationer, to be Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Torphichen*, who has a Preſentation from the Right Hon. the Lord *Torphichen*, Patron, and a Call by ſeveral Heritors and others of that Pariſh, affirmed, and the ſaid Presbytery appointed to proceed to the Trials and Settlement of the ſaid Mr. *James Watſon*

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Watſon to be Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Torphichen*, with all convenient Diſpatch, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*

The Account of the Procurator and Agents and Printers for the Church, with the Report of the Committee who reviſed the ſame, brought in, and ordered to ly on the Table, to be peruſed by Members. *Ibid.*

An Appeal of *David Haggart* of *Cairnmuir*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, finding him guilty of a Relapſe in Adultery with *Babie M'William*, and likewiſe guilty of Adultery with *Margaret Haggart*; and alſo finding him guilty of groſs Prevarication, and of ſeveral artful and ſinful Attempts to hinder the Evidences from declaring the Truth; and therefore appointing him to be laid under the Sentence of the greater Excommunication, referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

The Orders of the General Aſſembly 1724, on the Procurator and Agent for the Church, relative to the providing the Parithes within the Synod of *Glenelg* with ſufficient Churches, Manſes, Glebes, and Stipends, renewed. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of 4 *l. Sterl.* of Viaticum to one Commiſſioner to this Aſſembly from each of the Presbyteries of *Caithneſs*, *Dornoch*, *Aberterph*, *Mull*, *Gairloch* and *North-Iſles*. *Ibid.*

The Procurator and Agents for the Church appointed to carry on the neceſſary Proceſſes, at the publick Charge, for removing the Grievances which the Miniſters of the Preſbytery of *Gairloch* labour under, by Want of Churches and Manſes, but that the Expence be replaced out of what ſhall be recovered at the Iſſue of ſuch Proceſſes. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Truſtees, appointed by Act of Parliament, for managing the Fund for a Proviſſion to Miniſters Widows, *&c.* produced, and ordered to ly on the Table till another Diet. *Ibid.*

The Moderator appointed to write to the Right Hon. the Lord High Chancellor of *Great Britain*, the Right Hon. the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, and to his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, returning them the Thanks of the Aſſembly for their Countenance and Favour in paſſing the Bill in Parliament for explaining and amending the Act for eſtabliſhing the ſaid Fund. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee to whom the Petition of *Allan Livingſton* was remitted, brought in; and it is appointed, that, in Conſideration of his permitting all the Miniſters of this Church, and thoſe concerned in the Aſſembly Clerks Office, to enter the Advocates Bar in the Court of Seſſion, he have four Guineas yearly, and that *Peter Borthwick* his Servant have one Guinea yearly, to be paid them

them, by the Agent for the Church, out of the Publick Money. *Ibid.*

A Petition for *James Watſon* Merchant in *Glaſgow*, and *Mary Falla*, his Spouſe, craving to be reponed againſt a Sentence of the Commiſſion of the laſt Aſſembly, pronounced in Abſence, admitting Proteſtation at the Inſtance of the Presbytery of *Glaſgow*, againſt them, for not inſiſting in their Appeal from a Sentence of the ſaid Presbytery, finding their Marriage inceſtuous, delayed. *Ibid.*

A Letter from Mr. *Murdo MacLeod* Miniſter of *Glenelg*, craving the Aſſembly's Recommendation to the Managers of the Royal Bounty, for appointing a Miſſionary Preacher to be employed in his Pariſh, and undertaking to give 100 Merks yearly, as a further Encouragement to ſuch Miſſionary, remitted to the Conſideration of the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty. *Ibid.*

Act appointing the ſeveral Presbyteries of this Church to hold Viſitations for ſettling Parochial Schools. *Ibid*

An Appeal of *Robert Strachan* Tenant in *Fordes* in the Pariſh of *Dun*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, in a Proceſs againſt Mr. *James Ker* Miniſter of the ſaid Pariſh, referred to the Commiſſion. *May 22d, Seſſ. ult.*

Report of the Committee for naming the Members of the Commiſſion, and drawing Inſtructions to them, brought in and approven. *Ibid.*

The Propoſal for diſtinguiſhing the Reſpect, in the Calling of Miniſters, due to thoſe who expreſs a ſuitable Regard to Religion and Goſpel Ordinances, and excluding thoſe of a contrary Character from voting in ſuch Elections, referred to the Commiſſion, in Terms of the Reference by the laſt General Aſſembly to their Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

A Repreſentation from the Synod of *Roſs*, with reſpect to the State of Popery in their Bounds, is referred to the Commiſſion, with Power to them to give ſuch Directions therein, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe. *Ibid.*

The Draught of an Addreſs to his Majeſty on Occaſion of the General Peace, brought in and approven, and his Grace the Commiſſioner undertakes to tranſmit the ſame to his Majeſty. *Ibid.*

Overture about licenſing Probationers. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, his Intromiſſions with his Majeſty's Allowance for defraying the publick Charges of the Church, for the Terms of *Lady-day*, *Midſummer*, *Michaelmas*, and *Chriſtmas*, 1748, and appointing a Balance of Ninety-five Pound eighteen Shillings

lings and two Pence *Sterl.* in his Hands, to be charged to his next Accompt. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of *Robert MacIntosh*, Agent for the Church, and Sub-clerk to the General Assembly, and appointing, that he have Credit, in his next Accompt, for the Balance of Forty-one Pound nineteen Shillings and seven Pence one fourth *Sterl.* due to him. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompt of *John Baillie*, Agent for the Church, and appointing a Balance of Ten Pound and three Pence *Sterl.* in his Hands, to be charged in his Accompt. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of an Accompt due to the Printers for the Church, amounting to Eleven Pounds two Shillings and Ten Pence *Sterl.* *Ibid.*

The Report of the Trustees for managing the Fund for a Provision to Ministers Widows reproduced, containing a State of the Fund, under their Management, and an Account of their Proceedings since last General Assembly, and ordered to be recorded in the separate Register kept for that Purpose. *Ibid.*

The Appeal of *James Watson* and *Mary Falla* from a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Glasgow*, referred to the Commission, with Power to them to cognosce and finally determine therein, as they shall find just. *Ibid.*

An Appeal of *Mathew Allan* Merchant in *Moffat*, from a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, refusing to assoilie him from the Scandal of Fornication, whereof he is accused by one *Jean Scot*, is refered to the Commission. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of all Affairs referred by the last General Assembly to their Commission, and not discussed by them. *Ibid.*

An Appeal of Mr. *Niel Beton*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, dismissing an Appeal taken by him from a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, refusing to restore him to the Exercise of his Licence to preach the Gospel, taken from him by them, is referred to the Commission. *Ibid.*

The Trustees of the Fund, established by Act of Parliament, for a Provision to Ministers Widows, *&c.* authorised to write to Widows and Children, whose Annuities or Pensions are not affected by the new Act of Parliament, laying before them a State of the Fund, and that if they incline voluntarily to allow a Deduction of what they are intitled to draw, the same will be applied for Support of the Fund. *Ibid.*

The

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The Synod Books of *Orkney*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, *Fife*, *Murray*, *Aberdeen* and *Roſs*, atteſted. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Argyle* atteſted, with a Recommendation, that, when they receive any Letters from the Aſſembly or Commiſſion, they cauſe ingroſs the ſame at full Length, or an Abſtract thereof in their Regiſter. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Perth* and *Stirling* atteſted, with a Recommendation, that they direct their Clerk to be more accurate in recording their Proceedings; and that, when they appoint any Correſpondents to neighbouring Synods, they inſert the Names of Elders ſo appointed, as well as the Miniſters. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Glenelg* atteſted, with a Recommendation to them, to give better Attendance on the Meetings of the Synod, and to ſend regularly Correſpondents to their neighbouring Synod of *Argyle*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, not being brought up, are appointed to be produced to the next Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Proteſtation admitted at the Inſtance of the Synod of *Dumfries*, againſt *Ann Dobbie* in Pariſh of *Dryſdale*, for not inſiſting in an Appeal taken by her, from a Sentence of the ſaid Synod, appointing her to ſatisfy Diſcipline for the Scandal of Fornication, according to her own Confeſſion, and the ſaid Appeal declared to be deſerted and fallen from. *Ibid.*

Liſt of Probationers, in the Bounds of thirty-one Presbyteries, produced, amounting to 103, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this Sederunt were read, the Minutes of former Sederunts being read at the Diets ſubſequent to each Sederunt. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Minutes of this Aſſembly's Proceedings at this and all the other Diets thereof, and to pitch out ſuch of the Acts of this Aſſembly, as are to be ſtanding Rules, or are of publick Uſe, in order to be printed. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to the Aſſembly, and to his Majeſty's Commiſſioner. *Ibid.*

The Lord Commiſſioner's Speech in Return; and then the Aſſembly was concluded.

FINIS.